Survey of policy for reforestation

7. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the long-term policy for reforestation in the deforested land in the country;

(b) what concrete steps have been taken to implement this policy; and

(c) whether any survey has been undertaken to monitor the success/ failure of this policy?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) and (b) An area of 9 million hectares of degraded forest land is proposed to be reforested during the Eighth Five Year Plan. In addition to work being done by State Forest Departments to reforest degraded forest lands, guidelines have been issued to State Governments to involve village communities in reforestation of degraded forest lands, on usufruct sharing basis.

(c) No survey has been undertaken to monitor the success of this policy as guidelines were issued on 1-6-1990 only.

One Rank-one pension for Ex-Servicemen

8. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have implemented the scheme of "one-rank one pension" for ex-servicemen?

(b) if not, by when Government propose to fulfil its commitment to "one rank-one pension" for ex-servicemen and at what steps does the matter stand at present;

(c) what is the reason for the delay?

(d) since when the decision is likely to be given effect to; and

(e) what would be the likely additional expenditure on implementation of this commitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Committee constituted by the Government of India to considered the ex-servicemen's demand for 'one rank one pension' has not been able to finalise its report so far. The Committee has, however, completed examination of the issue and its report is expected to be finalised shortly. The likely addition expenditure on implementation of this demand can be worked out after the modalities for its implementation are finalised.

Tiger reserved in Orissa

9. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a Tiger Reserve (Tiger Project) in Phulabari district of Orissa comprising the forests of Phulabari, Balangir and Kalahandi districts; and

(b) if so, whether the said tiger reserve would be set up during the 8th Five Year Plan; and if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) At present there is no proposal to set up a Tiger Reserve in Phulabari, Balangir and Kalahandi districts of Orissa.

Pollution control measures by Power Plants in Orissa

10. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the power plants in Orissa which have not taken any air and water Pollution control measures;

(b) the directions given to those power plants to take adequate measures in this regard; and

(c) the response of those power plants to the directions of the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) There are two thermal power plants in Orissa, namely, the Talcher Thermal Power plant (TTPS) and National Aluminium Company (NALCO), with installed capacities of 440 MW and 600 MW, respectively. Both the Thermal Power Plants have installed Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) and have adequate wastewater treatment facilities. The ESPs need augmentation to meet the present emission standards.

(b) The Orissa State Pollution Control Board has directed both the thermal power plants to instal either desulphurisation units or raise the heights of the stacks. The Central Government have not issued any directions to these units.

(c) Does not arise.

Implementation of National Literacy Mission through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan

11. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have requested the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan to send proposals for continuance of National Literacy Mission through them;

(b) if so, what is the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan response thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan could not continue with implementation of the Project due to mismanagement of funds by some of its Kendras; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) to (d) Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan is one of several implementing agencies entrusted with adult education programme. It was last assigned 16000 Adult Education Centres and 1500 Jan Shikshan Nilayams in 200 districts in 1988-89 & 1989-90. In accordance with the strategy of the National Literacy Mission for implementation of area specific and time specific plans for complete eradication of illiteracy, the Sangathan has been asked to submit a comprehensive plan which is yet to be received. Statement of accounts in respect of grant sanctioned to the Sangathan is reported to have been finalised and is in the process of submission. There is no reported case of mismanagement of funds.

Central directive for revision of pay scales of NDS Instructors

12. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to the States and U.T. Administrations for revision of the pay scales of the former National Discipline Scheme Instructors (NDSIs) to bring them at par with the teaching staff of the schools run by the Centre/U.T. Administrations from 1st January, 1967, till their absorption in the State services;

(b) whether it is a fact that the pay scales so offered pertain to the teaching staff of Primary Schools of Centre/U.T. Administrations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the former N.D.S. Instructors were employed in the Middle/High/Higher Secondary Schools of the country and are still serving in these Schools; and